

# COMPLETED Western and Central Pacific Ocean tropical tuna - purse seine (OPAGAC)

## Overview

### FIP Description

This FIP encompasses all global tropical tuna stocks of three species: bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*), skipjack (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) and yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) for a total of 13 Units of Certification. In the case of this specific sub-FIP for the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, we deal with three stocks of tunas - one each for skipjack, bigeye tuna, and yellowfin tuna.

Because of the set-up of FisheryProgress, the overarching FIP was broken into four sub-FIPs according to the relevant RFMO (IATTC, ICCAT, IOTC, and WCPFC). The reasoning behind this division is that each RFMO has different scores and actions for the various MSC principles, in particular for Principles 1 & 3. Had we grouped all RFMOs together, we would not have been able to present or track the various activities and timelines in a cohesive, clear and comprehensive manner.

[Perfil de FIP en Español](#)

## How is this FIP Doing?

### Current Status:



**Actions Progress** This shows the proportion of actions in the workplan that the FIP has completed.



**Actions Overview** This shows the proportion of actions that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started.



86%	0%	14%	0%
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### FIP Objective(s)

This FIP is working towards completing the following objectives by fall 2021:

1. Achieve MSC certification for the OPAGAC industrial purse seine tuna fleet in three oceans and four RFMOs, within the next 5 years.
2. Unify the industrial purse seine fishery into one MSC unit of certification instead of the misleading current division of free and associated schools.
3. Bring together leading industry and environmental partners to work collaboratively towards sustainability of the fishery and ensure fair market access.
4. Have RFMOs adopt Harvest Control Rules (HCR) for stocks of tropical tuna species, including support to the process of Management Strategy Evaluation based on the best science available.
5. Adoption of robust ad-hoc rebuilding strategies, in line with MSC standards, for stocks not subject to HCR (where required).
6. Influence the various RFMOs to adopt an ecosystem approach to fisheries management.
7. Assist RFMOs in the adoption of best practices concerning the use of drift fish aggregating devices (dFADs), through provision of information in support of informed scientific advice.
8. Drive real changes in the fleet to minimize the impact of the fishery over non-target species and improve survivorship of sensitive species such as turtles, sharks, and any other sensitive bycatch.

Note: The Indicator Scores presented in this website are based on the MSC Performance Indicators (PI) for the species in the worst shape in the fisheries. The way FisheryProgress.org is currently set up does not allow for the entry of PI scores for more than one stock or species. In this case, two species have a yellow ranking (bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna) but the two stocks of skipjack (Eastern and Western) are in green.

### FIP Type

Comprehensive

### FIP Stage

Stage 5: Improvements on the Water

### Start and Projected End Dates

October, 2016 -  
September, 2021

### Species

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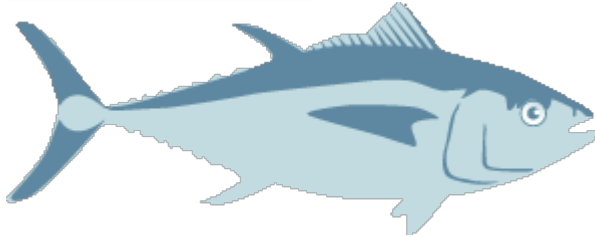
**Common Name**

Bigeye Tuna

**Scientific Name**

Thunnus obesus

[Buying Guide Link Image](#)



[Bigeye Tuna](#)

[Buying Guide](#)

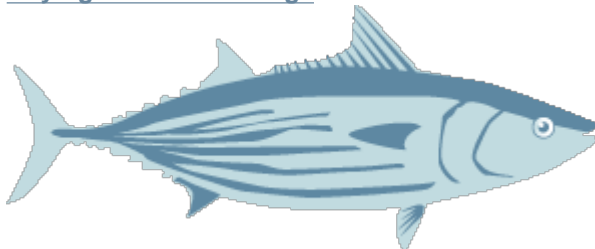
**Common Name**

Skipjack Tuna

**Scientific Name**

Katsuwonus pelamis

[Buying Guide Link Image](#)



[Skipjack Tuna](#)

[Buying Guide](#)

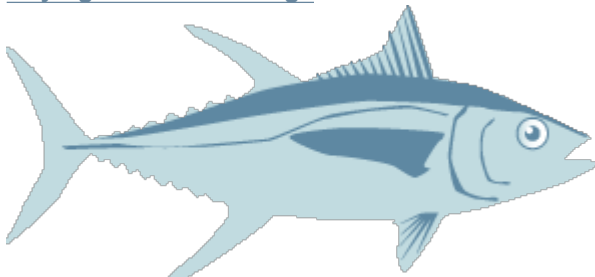
**Common Name**

Yellowfin Tuna

**Scientific Name**

Thunnus albacares

[Buying Guide Link Image](#)



[Yellowfin Tuna](#)

[Buying Guide](#)

## Gear Type

Purse Seine

## Location

### FAO Major Fishing Area

Area 71 (Pacific, Western Central)

### Exclusive Economic Zones

#### Country

Cook Islands (the)

#### Country

Kiribati

#### Country Flag of Vessel

Ecuador

#### Country Flag of Vessel

El Salvador

#### Country Flag of Vessel

Spain

#### Country Flag of Vessel

Panama

### Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO)

WCPFC

## Estimated Total FIP Landings

50000 metric tons

## FIP Leads

### Organization Name

OPAGAC

### Organization Type

Industry

**Primary Contact**

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**Website Name**

[OPAGAC](#)

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**Organization Name**

WWF

**Organization Type**

NGO

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**Website Name**

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